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LETTER DATED 8 OCTOBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose the report of the Chairman of the Working Group on Confidence and Security-building and Verification Measures to the co-chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia, which contains details of the agreements reached between the parties in the region on the implementation of aerial confidence measures, including the ban on the military use of aircraft in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if this report could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sir D. H. A. HANNAY

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Annex

Report of the Chairman of the Working Group on Confidence and Security-building and Verification Measures to the co-chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia

1. The Working Group on Confidence and Security-building and Verification Measures held seven meetings between 4 and 15 September 1992.

2. Upon the request of the co-chairmen, and in the light of the tragic loss of the Italian crew and aircraft carrying out a humanitarian mission for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) airlift on 3 September, the Working Group focused its attention on ways within its mandate to facilitate the resumption of humanitarian flights into Sarajevo.

3. With respect to the implementation of measures agreed at the London Conference, the parties in the region covered by the activities of the Working Group agreed to provide to the Working Group and exchange among themselves, as from Tuesday, 15 September 1992, information on the measures they have taken:

(a) To implement the ban on military use, as a first step, of aircraft or helicopters with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(b) To identify, as a first step, headquarters and names of commanders of all armed forces, including paramilitary forces:

(i) In a 45-kilometre radius of the site where the Italian aircraft went down;

(ii) In an area 10 kilometre on each side of the flight route agreed between the parties on the ground and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) for humanitarian flights in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(c) To ensure that all parties on the ground have liaison at the Sarajevo airport with UNPROFOR authorities so that the armed forces in the area under their control are fully aware of the humanitarian character of any UNHCR flight.

4. They also agreed on the immediate implementation of the following further measures:

(a) To facilitate the task of UNPROFOR in operating Sarajevo airport;

(b) To report on the state of all navigational aids in the region and measures to restore them, if necessary, to working conditions;

(c) To report on measures to comply with the agreement of 5 June 1992 on the reopening of the Sarajevo airport for humanitarian purposes, in accordance with paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 757 (1992) and paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 758 (1992);

(d) To ban any radar lock-on of humanitarian flights as well as of any United Nations authorized flights;

(e) Not to deploy, as a first step with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina, any anti-aircraft artillery and surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) in an area 45 km on each side of the agreed route for humanitarian flights, and furthermore to declare such weapons already deployed in that area and to withdraw them;

(f) To provide, also as a first step, to the Working Group and exchange among themselves information on the location of all anti-aircraft artillery and SAMs in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

5. The Working Group received at its meeting on 15 September 1992 information from two of the parties in compliance with the provisions of the present document, which was welcomed and is transmitted to the co-chairmen for their consideration. While not objecting to the decision taken at the London Conference on the ban on military use of aircraft or helicopters, one party noted that it was not yet in a position to exchange information immediately, but it would do so as soon as possible.

6. The Working Group agreed to keep the implementation of the measures agreed upon under permanent review.

7. The Working Group, recalling that UNPROFOR had the responsibility of ensuring the safety of the humanitarian flights, suggested that a member of UNPROFOR assist the Working Group.

8. The Chairman drew the attention of the members of the Working Group to the agreement reached in principle on 11 September 1992 at Belgrade regarding, inter alia, the placing of observers at military airfields. He noted that the implementation of that agreement, together with other verification measures, might assist in making more effective the ban on military use of aircraft or helicopters.

9. The Chairman is hopeful that the above agreements may contribute to the early resumption of the humanitarian flights.

(Signed) Vicente BERASATEGUI
Chairman

Enclosure

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Working Group on Confidence and Security-building and Verification Measures

Agreement on modalities for the implementation of the measures agreed to facilitate the resumption of humanitarian flights into Sarajevo, as contained in the report of the Chairman of the Working Group to the co-chairmen of the Steering Committee dated 15 September 1992

A. With respect to the three following confidence-building measures agreed at the London Conference - LC/C7 (Final) of 27 August 1992 and LC/C11 (Final)

A.1. To implement the ban on military use, as a first step, of aircraft or helicopters with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Modalities

The parties are to provide the Chairman of the Working Group and exchange among themselves - either directly or through him - information in writing on all measures they have taken or are taking to implement the above ban in the area of application of the measures, including the level and format in which the implementation order was given, the levels at which the order is received, the date of implementation and the focal point on the ground, designated by each party, for any clarification needed with respect to the ban. The ban includes any use of combat or non-combat aircraft or helicopters for any military purpose whatsoever over all the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A.2. To identify, as a first step, Headquarters and names of commanders of all armed forces, including paramilitary forces: (i) in a 45-km radius of the site where the Italian aircraft went down; (ii) in an area 10 km on each side of the flight route agreed between the parties on the ground and UNPROFOR for humanitarian flights in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Modalities

The parties are to provide the Chairman of the Working Group and exchange among themselves - either directly or through him - information in writing on headquarters and names of commanders in the area of application of the measure of all armed units at each level of command down to the level of battalion, or equivalent formation above the company level, and of all units of paramilitary forces, without exclusion.

A.3. To ensure that all parties on the ground have liaison at the Sarajevo airport with UNPROFOR authorities so that the armed forces in the area under their control are fully aware of the humanitarian character of any UNHCR flight

Modalities

The parties are to ensure that authorized personnel is in place to maintain liaison with UNPROFOR units at Sarajevo airport and has full access to the airport area. They are also to provide the Working Group in writing the name or names of those responsible for such liaison, as well as information on the measures taken to ensure full access.

B. With respect to the immediate implementation of the further measures agreed:

B.1. To facilitate the task of UNPROFOR in operating Sarajevo airport

Modalities

The parties are to report in writing to the Working Group on measures they have taken or are taking to facilitate the task of UNPROFOR in all aspects of its operation of the Sarajevo airport. Further modalities are to be developed in consultation with UNPROFOR authorities.

B.2. To report on the state of navigational aids in the region and measures to restore them, if necessary, to working conditions

Modalities

The parties are to report in writing to the Working Group on the state of navigational aids at the Sarajevo airport and of beacons set up along the agreed flight routes. They are also to report on measures they have taken or are taking to restore those navigational aids, if necessary, to working condition.

B.3. To report on measures to comply with the agreement of 5 June 1992 on the reopening of the Sarajevo airport for humanitarian purposes, in accordance with paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 757 (1992) and paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 758 (1992)

Modalities

The parties are to report in writing to the Working Group on the measures they have taken or are taking to comply with the agreement of 5 June 1992 on the reopening of the Sarajevo airport for humanitarian purposes, including all the measures contained in that agreement for the implementation of the security zone envisaged in paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 757 (1992). Further measures will be developed in consultation with UNPROFOR authorities.

B.4. To ban any radar lock-on to humanitarian flights as well as of any United Nations authorized flights

Modalities

The parties are to report in writing to the Working Group on the measures they have taken or are taking to implement the ban on radar lock-ons of humanitarian flights as well as of any United Nations authorized flights, including the level and format in which the order for the ban is given, the levels at which the order is received, the date of implementation and, in any case, the focal point on the ground, designated by each party, for any clarification needed with respect to the ban.

B.5. Not to deploy, as a first step with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina, any anti-aircraft artillery and surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) in an area 45 km on each side of the agreed route for humanitarian flights, and furthermore to declare such weapons already deployed in that area and to withdraw them

Modalities

The parties are not to deploy in the area of application of the measure any type of anti-aircraft artillery and SAMs, as well as any associated equipment, such as fire control radars. Furthermore, they are to provide the Chairman of the Working Group and exchange among themselves - either directly or through him - information in writing on the location of all such types of air-defence weapons from the battery or SAMs team level and up in the area of application of the measure. They are also to provide the level and format in which the order for withdrawal of such weapons was given, the levels at which the order is received, the time-table for the implementation of the withdrawal and, in any case, the focal point on the ground, designated by each party, for any clarification needed with respect to the withdrawal.

B.6. To provide, also as a first step, to the Working Group and exchange among themselves information on the location of all anti-aircraft artillery and SAMs in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Modalities

The parties are to provide the Chairman of the Working Group and exchange among themselves - either directly or through him - information in writing on the location of all types of anti-aircraft artillery and SAMs from the battery and SAMs team-level and up, as well as any associated equipment, such as fire control radars, in the entire area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The information exchange should be updated every 30 days. Furthermore, any intended change in the location of any weapons previously reported shall be notified five days before they are moved.

C. The Chairman of the Working Group may establish deadlines for the submission of information and may request any party to clarify or confirm any information transmitted to him which he may consider incomplete or not conforming to the guidelines set out above.